



TO: KOCO Staff and Families
FROM: Janet, Laurie & Brian
DATE: November 2, 2023
RE: *Stone Soup* Celebration

It has become a beloved KOCO tradition to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday by cooking *Stone Soup*. On Monday, November 20, Miss Shonagh will be reading Jon J. Muth's version of the story as part of her *Story Kitchen* series. In this version, three Buddhist monks come upon a village full of war- and famine-weary villagers who have grown to mistrust each other and all strangers. The monks teach the villagers to find happiness working together to make stone soup. Each family, at first unwilling to share its food, is tricked into adding an ingredient to the pot. Before long, there's enough soup to feed the whole town!

Stone Soup is a simple tale that teaches even the youngest children about the virtues of welcoming, of teamwork, of sharing. Preparation of stone soup in the classroom provides an opportunity for the children to contribute and prepare their own ingredients, and thereby to experience the story firsthand.

The *Stone Soup* celebration depends on family participation. If each family contributes just one ingredient, KOCO will provide the pot, the water and (of course) the stone. Parents should sign up in their child's classroom to provide one ingredient each. Ingredients are to be brought in during the week of November 15-17, and will be cooked and eaten at a Thanksgiving "feast" on Monday, November 20. We hope that you will help us to facilitate this worthwhile activity!